



AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE FACT SHEET FOR THE STATE OF TENNESSEE

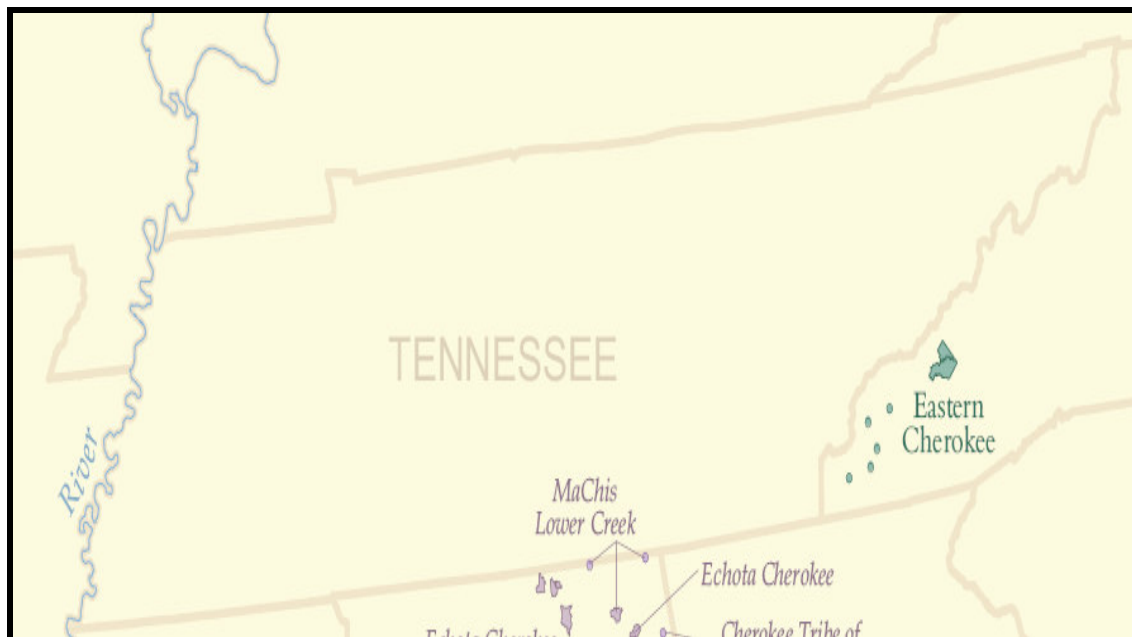
OVERVIEW

According to the 2000 U.S. Census there are 4.1 million American Indian/Alaska Natives (AI/AN) residing in the United States (alone or in combination with another race). While 4 out of 10 Indians live in western states, every state in the nation has a measurable AI/AN populationⁱ. There are currently 563 federally recognized Indian tribes and approximately 245 tribes currently petitioning for federal recognition. Each of these tribes is a distinct sovereign nation that determines its own membership (citizenship) and exercises the powers of government. The Urban Indian Health Institute estimates that 66% of the AI/AN population lives in metropolitan areas (over 2.7 million)ⁱⁱ. The Indian Health Service contracts with 34 Urban Indian Health Clinics.

The U.S. Constitution (Article 1 Section 8) sets the foundation for the federal government's trust responsibility to Indian nations, which has been reinforced over the years through various treaties, laws, and court rulings. Despite this, AI/AN people continue to be underserved due to a lack of adequate federal funding. The Indian Health Service appropriation meets less than 60% of the needⁱⁱⁱ, and of that Behavioral Health typically represents about 1% of their total budget. The Bureau of Indian Affairs continues to eliminate or cut programs due to decreased funding.

Since Indian people are also citizens of the states in which they reside, local government agencies and entities have the responsibility to serve AI/AN populations that reside in their cities, counties, or states. In states that have federally or state recognized tribes, government-to-government relationships should be fostered in ways that promote the principle of tribal self-determination. In other states, efforts should be made to reach out to Urban Indian organizations or other community-based AI/AN organizations. Cities should seek partnerships and offer contracts to Urban Indian organizations. The National Indian Child Welfare Association is available to provide assistance to cities, counties, and states seeking to develop partnerships with AI/AN communities.

State Map (2000 U.S. Census)



NOTE: THERE ARE NO FEDERALLY OR STATE RECOGNIZED TRIBES WITH RESERVATIONS IN TENNESSEE; HOWEVER, THERE IS A VERY **LARGE URBAN INDIAN POPULATION** AS WELL AS TRIBES THAT ARE PETITIONING FOR RECOGNITION.

Demographics (2000 U.S. Census)

Total AI/AN population (alone or in any combination)	39,188
Total AI/AN population under age 19 (alone or in any combination)	11,742
Number of AI/AN on reservation	N/A
Number of AI/AN off reservation	N/A
Urban Indian population for Chattanooga, TN	3,617
Urban Indian population for Clarksville, TN and Hopkinsville, KY	2,683
Urban Indian population for Johnson City, Kingsport and Bristol, TN	2,928
Urban Indian population for Knoxville, TN	6,776
Urban Indian population for Memphis, TN	6,428
Urban Indian population for Nashville, TN	9,619

Disclaimer – Census data may have some inaccuracies related to the population on reservations. Contact tribe for the official tribal statistics

Contact information

For a list of over 100 Indian organizations in Tennessee (including contact information), please visit the following link: <http://cita.chattanooga.org/TNNAorgs.html>.

Tennessee Commission of Indian Affairs http://www.state.tn.us/environment/tcia/	Advisory Council on Tennessee Indian Affairs www.actia.org
Tennessee Native American Convention www.tnnac.org	Native American Indian Association of Tennessee 230 Spence Lane Nashville, TN 37210 Phone: (615) 232-9179 FAX: (615) 726-0810 Website: http://www.naiatn.org
Chattanooga Inter-Tribal Center Box 1063 Chattanooga, TN 37401 Phone: (423) 624-3380 Website: http://cita.chattanooga.org	Nashville Area Indian Health Service Richie Grinnell, Director 711 Stewart Ferry Pike Nashville, TN 37214-2634 Phone: (615) 467-1500 FAX: (615) 467-1501 www.ihs.gov/FacilitiesServices/AreaOffices/Nashville/ <i>(Regional office that covers programs administered in eastern area)</i>
Bureau of Indian Affairs Eastern Agency Franklin Keel, Regional Director 545 Marriott Drive, Suite 700 Nashville, TN 37214 Phone: 615-564-6700 Fax: 615-564-6701 <i>(Regional office that covers programs administered in eastern area)</i>	

For more information contact the National Indian Child Welfare Association at (503) 222-4044 or visit our website at www.nicwa.org

ⁱ *The American Indian and Alaska Native Population: 2000 Census Brief. Issued February 2002. US Census Bureau*

ⁱⁱ *Urban Indian Health Issue Brief. By Ralph Forquera for the Henry J. Kaiser Foundation. November 2001*

ⁱⁱⁱ *Level of Need Funded Study by the LNF Work Group Report II, December 1999 Indian Health Service*